



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

August 19, 2016

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## PAUL'S NOTE

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Last week, I wrote about climate change and the challenges it presents to us as citizens and city policy makers. Since I wrote that, the headlines have featured a number of stories about extreme weather. We have found out that July was the world's hottest month since records started being taken. Storms have dumped nearly 7 trillion gallons of water on Louisiana and 13 people have lost their lives. Wildfires in California have blackened nearly 40,000 acres. Between the fires in California and floods in Louisiana, over 110,000 people have had to be evacuated.

The trend lines are not looking good. NASA reports that this is the tenth straight month of record breaking temperatures, and the third consecutive year that we have broken July heat records. If you thought it was hot this year, all in-

dications are that we will continue to keep breaking records if nothing is done to mitigate the human impact of greenhouse gasses. It's past time for us to consider this an emergency. We need to have a community dialogue on what we are willing to do as a community to adapt and mitigate the warming climate. Human induced climate change is by far one of the biggest issues our generation faces.

If you'd like to learn more about what is going on, the Bus Riders Union is sponsoring a Climate Change Summit.

The discussion is open to the public and will take place on Thursday, Aug. 25 from 5:30 pm to 7 pm. It will be at the Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S 5th Avenue. The keynote speakers will be State Senator Steve Farley, Founder of Southern Arizona Transit Advocates and Gregg Garfin, UA Associate

Professor in Climate, Natural Resources and Policy & City of Tucson Climate Change Committee.

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Marian Lupu passed away last weekend at the age of 91. I'm sure many of you have read the numerous tributes to Marian and her work that have been published over the last few days. Every good word written about her had been earned in decades of work in our community. My family and Marian's family were strongly connected. My grandmother was a friend and colleague of hers, and I have worked with her son-in-law Joey Rogers. It is hard to think of a major community volunteer effort from the 1960's that either my grandmother or Marian wasn't involved in. Usually, it was both of them.

## PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

Most of us know Marian from her work with the Pima Council on Aging, which has been a fierce advocate for elder issues in our community. She founded the group in 1965, and continued as its executive director until 2006.

Do the math. She was 82 years old when she retired. Keep that in mind next time your back is a bit creaky and you think about calling in to work.

Retired, but not done. She went on to start Dancing in the Streets with her son-in-law, serving as the president of the board. Dancing in the Streets is a remarkable program in South Tucson that has introduced hundreds of children, particularly those from the south and west sides, to the world of dance since 2008.

Marian was also an active member of the Harold Bell Wright Neighborhood Association, so I was proud to be able to say I represented her on the council.

Marian was a force for good in our community. We are all happy to have been her friend, and we are lucky that the organizations we started will continue to do good work in the coming decades.

Thank you, Marian.

The family is asking for people to donate to Dancing in the Streets Arizona (<http://www.ditsaz.org>) in her honor, instead of flowers.

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One last note: Happy Birthday Tucson! Although there has been continuous occupation here by Native Americans for over four millennia, the traditional date we celebrate is when Irish mercenary Capt. Hugo O'Connor (or Oconór to his Spanish employers), Father Francisco Garces and Lt. Juan Carmona proclaimed the Presidio San Agustín del Tucsón on August 20, 1776.

Ninety years later, J. Ross Browne, a writer for Harper's, had a rather low opinion of us Tucsonans, calling the Old Pueblo a "paradise of devils ... a place of resort for traders, speculators, gamblers, horse-thieves, murderers and vagrant politicians... If the world were searched over I suppose there could not be found so degraded a set of villains as then formed the principal society of Tucson."

Hey, vagrant politicians! I take offense.

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## **WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY CELEBRATION**

The Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission, an official local government agency, will be holding a fundraising event in August. (While it has members appointed by and reports to both the City and the County, the Commission receives no funding from either.) The event will celebrate both the annual Women's Equality Day and the 40th anniversary of the Women's Commission. It will be a luncheon held at the Lodge on the Desert, 306 N. Alvernon Way, on Thursday, August 25th from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. The theme of the day is "Equality: the Journey Continues. " Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon will be KVOA news anchor Kristi Tedesco, and featured speakers will be Kristen Mayes, former chair of the Arizona Corporation Commission; Judy Rich, CEO of Tucson Medical Center, and Joe Broschak, professor of entrepreneurship at UA's Eller College of Management. The keynote speaker will be Carolyn Warner, three-time Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction and former gubernatorial candidate. Topics for their talks may be found on our website, [pimatucsonwomen.org](http://pimatucsonwomen.org).

Reservations for the luncheon may be made by mail, at \$65 per seat (\$40 is tax deductible), by sending a check made out to the Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission, to P.O. Box 50684, Tucson, AZ 85703. Please indicate your choice of main course: chicken, or vegetarian mushroom ravioli. Reservations may also be made at the Commission's website: [pimatucsonwomen.org](http://pimatucsonwomen.org). Seating is limited, and reservations must be received by Tuesday, August 16th

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## **SANDBAGS**

The City of Tucson is now offering a self-service site for sandbags in the parking lot of Hi Corbett Field on South Randolph Way. The Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) has a big pile of sand in the lot, complete with shovels and sandbags to fill on your own. Please adhere to the 10-bag limit so there's enough to go around for those who need them. If you don't want to fill your own sandbags, pre-filled bags are available at Tucson Fire Department Station 7, 4902 E. Pima St., but you need to load the bags into your vehicle on your own. Bags will be replenished as needed until the end of the monsoon. City staff will not be available to help. The same 10-bag limit applies at that site as well. It is very important that motorists not block driveway access to the fire station.

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## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Health and Wellness Fair:** The Health and Wellness Fair will be on Thursday, September 29 from 11 am to 1 pm. There will be vendors, presentations, raffle, prizes and more.

**Casino Night:** Casino Night will be on Thursday, August 25 from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. The cost is \$8.00 per person. The event will include entertainment, food, gambling chips, great prizes from local businesses, and fun! The event is sponsored by The Forum of Tucson, and FiveStar Senior Living.

**Aquatic Fitness:** A free aquatic fitness class will be on Tuesday, August 30 from 8 am to 10:30 am. It will include a safety talk and snacks. Sponsored by CareMore.

*Please contact the Carol West Senior Addition, 791-4121 for questions.*

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## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Fall Program Guide and Parks and Recreation Leisure Classes:** The Tucson Parks and Recreation Fall Program Guide has been published, and registrations have started. The Fall Leisure classes for Session I takes place from August 28-October 15. Session II of classes will run October 23-December 10. For class and program availability, call Registration Services at 791-4877. Visit [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) for additional information.

**City Softball:** The City Softball League season begins August 15. Walk-in registrations are currently taking place at the Sports Unit located at 8155 E Poinciana Drive. Registration ends August 5.

**The Arizona Symphonic WINDS- Concerts:** The WINDS concert series will take place at the Lazslo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park (7200 E Tanque Verde Rd) on September 10, 17, 24, and October 1, and from 7 pm to 9 pm. Please bring a chair or blanket. For more information visit: <http://azwinds.com/>

*Call 791-4877 for more information or questions.*

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Remember to like  
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office  
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable  
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—  
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals  
and Families in Need**

**LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses**

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/  
Dance Equipment**

**CASA MARIA—Plastic bags**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 7**. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

